

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared ~~Infrared~~ drier installation for a passing web, comprising: [[,]]

~~which installation has~~ gas-heated infrared radiant elements[[,]] arranged next to one another next to the other so as to form a unit, wherein the installation is configured to heat the web without contacting the web with a heated surface, and

said unit comprising at least two adjacent rows of gas-heated infrared radiant elements stretching out in the transversal direction of the web substantially over an [[the]] entire width of the web,

wherein said infrared drier installation comprises a recycling device configured [[means]] to recycle, at least partially, ~~the said~~ combustion gases, wherein said infrared drier installation comprises a device configured [[means]] to avoid [[the]] suction of cold air between two adjacent rows of radiant elements.

2. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 1, wherein said device configured [[means]] to avoid the suction of cold air between the two adjacent rows of radiant elements is a sealing gasket.

3. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 1, wherein said drier installation comprises devices that form an insulating thermal arc extending stretching out to a vicinity ~~the neighbourhood~~ of a [[the]] backside of the radiant elements.

4. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 3, wherein said devices [[means]] that form an insulating thermal arc have peripheral walls stretching out to [[the]] a vicinity ~~neighbourhood~~ of the web, at least along [[the]] lateral edges and an [[the]] upstream transversal edge of the unit [[set]] of radiant elements.

5. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 1, wherein each radiant element has first detachable connecting devices configured ~~adapted~~ to cooperate with second detachable complementary connecting devices coupled by at least one fixed pipe supplying gas, combustion air or a mixture of gas and air,[[;]]

wherein the first and second detachable connecting ~~connection~~ devices are connected ~~by, said detachable connection are for part of~~ a quick connect coupling.

6. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 5, wherein the first and the second connecting ~~connection~~ devices are designed so as to oppose a preset maximal resistance and to yield, in a reproducible way, to a load force that exceeds this maximal resistance.

7. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 5, wherein said drier installation has for each row of radiant elements a corresponding gas tube, which has, for each radiant element, a fixed pipe configured to supply ~~that supplies~~ gas to the said radiant element, and wherein each radiant element has on its backside a back tubing configured to supply ~~supplying~~ a mixture of gas and air ~~and gas~~ that is adapted to be directly coupled in a detachable and tight way with a a [[the]] corresponding fixed gas pipe, wherein ~~in which~~ the fixed pipe or the back tubing has an air inlet opening that communicates with an [[the]] air tube to provide [[form]] the mixture of gas and air ~~and gas~~.

8. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 7, wherein for each row of radiant elements, a combustion air supply tube is placed between the radiant elements and the corresponding gas tube, [[and]]

wherein for each radiant element, the ~~combustion~~ air tube has opposite openings respectively made in two opposite regions of a a [[the]] wall of the air tube: [[,]] a first opening that is made in a first region adjacent to the radiant element, and a second opening that is made in a second region adjacent to the gas tube, [[and]]

wherein through each of the first and second openings passes the corresponding fixed pipe or a [[the]] corresponding back tubing.

9. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 8, wherein for each radiant element, the corresponding fixed pipe passes in a tight way through the second opening, wherein the second opening is formed [[made]] in the second region in [[of]] the wall of the ~~combustion~~ air tube adjacent to the [[said]] gas tube, [[and]]

wherein the corresponding back tubing supplying the mixture of gas and air ~~and gas~~ passes through the first opening, wherein the first opening is formed [[made]] in the first region in [[of]] the wall of the air tube adjacent to the said radiant element, and includes [[has]] the air inlet opening that ends inside the air tube to form the mixture of gas and air ~~and gas~~.

10. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 9, wherein the back tubing of each radiant element has at its front end ~~an organ~~ constituting the a gas injector connected to the back tubing.

11. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 1, wherein said drier installation has first collection devices configured to collect downstream of the radiant elements at least a part of the [[warm]] combustion gases produced by the said radiant elements, and first blowing devices configured to blow on the passing web, downstream the first collection devices, a gaseous mixture that is warmed [[up]] by the combustion ~~these warm~~ gases.

12. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 11, wherein said drier installation has several ventilators, arranged in ~~according to~~ a row stretching out in a [[the]] transversal direction of the passing web, wherein ~~in which~~ each ventilator is connected to collection hoods and to blowing hoods, respectively, which cover at least ~~covering~~ a part of a [[the]] width of the passing web.

13. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 12 [[1]], wherein each ventilator is located ~~situated~~ above the said collection and blowing hoods, and adjacent to [[the]] corresponding radiant elements, in relation to the said hoods.

14. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 11, wherein an insulating thermal arc is located between the radiant elements and the first ~~combustion-gas~~ collection devices [[means]].

15. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 1, wherein each radiant element comprises ~~comprise~~ a locking device configured to lock said radiant element in a [[its]] working position.

16. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 1, wherein each radiant element comprises an insulating device configured ~~comprise means~~ to insulate the [[warm]] combustion gases from a [[the]] backside of the [[said]] radiant element.

17. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 3, wherein each radiant element is enveloped in a peripheral jacket that extends stretching-out from a [[the]] front side of the [[said]] radiant element towards a [[the]] back to a [[the]] surface of the insulating thermal arc that faces ~~faeing~~ the passing web.

18. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 1, wherein each radiant element, or a peripheral jacket enveloping each radiant element, has at least a ~~has-one~~ bulge configured ~~adapted~~ to rest on an adjacent radiant element, or on an adjacent peripheral jacket, to prevent ~~avoid all possibilities of~~ pivoting of the radiant element around an [[the]] axis of a fixed pipe.

19. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 1, wherein said drier installation comprises a device configured [[means]] to limit infiltration of cold air infiltration between the passing web [[strip]] and the radiant elements.

20. (Currently Amended) A non-contact infrared drier [[Drier]] installation according to claim 19, wherein said device configured [[means]] to limit infiltration of cold air infiltration

between the passing web ~~[[strip]]~~ and the radiant elements comprises a cold air blowing device installed above a ~~upwards the~~ first row ~~[[rows]]~~ of radiant elements configured to blow ~~for blowing~~ air slightly in a direction opposite to a ~~[[the]]~~ moving direction of the web.